

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 24 and 26 to 43 are pending in the application; claim 25 is canceled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 112

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite. The examiner pointed out that the "second bonding layer" has no antecedence. The claim language has been corrected.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-11 and 26-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Steusloff et al.* (US 4,739,998).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 25 so that the above rejection no longer applies.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 17, 18, 21, 23, 24, 36-43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Steusloff et al.* (US 4,739,998) and *Sovia* (US 5,209,502).

The claims now depend from amended allowable claims 1, 15, and 19.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 12-16, 19, 20, 25, 34, and 35 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 25 and should thus be allowable.

Claim 12 has been amended by incorporating therein the features of claim 1, 4, and 11 and should thus be allowable.

Claim 15 has been amended by incorporating therein the features of claims 1 and 4 and should thus be allowable.

Claim 19 has been amended to include the features of claims 1 and 17 and should thus be allowable.

Claim 34 has been amended to include the features of claims 1 and 32 and should thus be allowable.

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The application now presents **five independent claims**. The fee for two independent claims in excess of three in the **amount of \$400.00** is to be charged to credit card; PTO-2038 is attached.


CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any further objections or suggestions, the undersigned would appreciate a phone call or e-mail from the examiner to discuss appropriate amendments to place the application into condition for allowance.

Authorization is herewith given to charge any fees or any shortages in any fees required during prosecution of this application and not paid by other means to Patent and Trademark Office deposit account 50-1199.

Respectfully submitted on July 12, 2005,


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Encl.: time extension petition (1 sheet); PTO-2038